

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAR ES 01086 161735Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 /026 W
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O 151330Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4354
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 1086

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y PARA 3 LINE 4

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TZ, CU
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT NYERERE COMMENTS ON CASTRO VISIT TO
TANZANIA

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1074

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION ON OTHER SUBJECTS MARCH 15, I
NOTED TO PRESIDENT NYERERE THAT MORNING PAPER HAS ANNOUNCED
FOR FIRST TIME ALMOST IMMEDIATE (MARCH 16) VISIT TO TANZANIA
BY PREMIER CASTRO OF CUBA. DID PRESIDENT HAVE ANYTHING TO
COMMENT ON IN REGARD TO THE VISIT, I ASKED.

2. NYERERE COUNTERED BY ASKING ME HOW I WOULD INTERPRET THE
VISIT. I SAID I THOUGH THIS COULD BE DONE IN A NUMBER OF WAYS.
ONE, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD BE TO SAY THAT: (A) THE VISIT WAS AT
LAST PARTIALLY A RETURN FOR NYERERE'S 1974 VISIT TO CUBA, (B)
THE SHORT NOTICE WAS THE RESULT OF A LAST-MINUTE DECISION TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF CASTRO'S VISIT TO OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA, (C) THE VISIT
WAS NATURAL BECAUSE TANZANIA WAS NON-ALIGNED AND WELCOMED

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VISITORS FROM ALL NATIONS, AND (D) CASTRO'S VISIT PROBABLY DID
NOT PORTEND ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN TANZANIA-CUBAN BILATERAL
RELATIONS OR IN CUBAN POLICY ON AFRICA.

3. BEFORE I COULD GO ON TO TRY OUT LESS BANAL ALTERNATIVE EXPLANA-
TIONS, NYERERE CUT ME OFF BY SAYING, "GOOD* GOOD* I GIVE YOU AN
'A' ON THAT PAPER... WELL, MAYBE AN 'A- BECAUSE I REALLY DON'T

SEE WHY YOU AMERICANS BOTHER ABOUT THIS SUBJECT AT ALL." HOWEVER,
HE ADDED, JOKING ASIDE, THE INTERPRETATION WAS REALLY CORRECT.

4. COMMENT: IT JUST MIGHT BE, BUT NEXT TIME IN VERBAL JOUSTING
WITH NYERERE I WILL START AT THE OTHER END OF THE SPECTRUM OF
ALTERNATIVES.
SPAIN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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